

proud record of being the second oldest newspaper of any kind to be published in Ohio, and the oldest newspaper bearing its original name west of the Appalachian Mountains.

The Newspaper was first published on February 13, 1807 by John McLean, a former member of this great body. Mr. McLean also served our nation as United States Postmaster General, and an Associate Justice on the Ohio and United States Supreme Courts.

Currently, the paper is owned and published by Cox Communications, which was founded by James Middleton Cox, who also served as a Member of this House.

Madam Speaker, The Western Star is an award winning weekly newspaper that exemplifies the ideal of a free press, one of this nation's greatest rights. Today, I ask my colleagues to join me in recognizing the 202 year tradition of the Western Star and in wishing the newspaper continued success in the future.

#### TRIBUTE TO THE DAUGHTERS OF SUNSET

##### HON. JO ANN EMERSON

OF MISSOURI

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

*Friday, February 13, 2009*

Mrs. EMERSON. Madam Speaker, I rise today to commend the Daughters of Sunset, an active group of leaders in Sikeston, Missouri, devoted to the improvement of our community. The Daughters of Sunset were founded in 1984, and this year they celebrate their 25th anniversary.

In southern Missouri, we are very fortunate to have many organizations that serve their neighbors and create opportunities for young Americans. One of the cornerstones of the Daughters of Sunset is a scholarship program that enables young people in Sikeston to achieve the dream of attending college. It's truly a program that opens doors to talented students that would never be available to them otherwise. Even better, the recipients of the Daughters of Sunset scholarship often take the lesson of this local support to heart; they stay in southern Missouri to put their educations to work and give back to the community that sent them to college.

The philosophy of the Daughters of Sunset is grounded in community service. They seek out opportunities to recognize the service of others, and they are recognized throughout the community as a reliable friend to any neighbor in need of a helping hand.

We are fortunate to have the Daughters of Sunset in Sikeston, and I am very proud to congratulate them on 25 years of service to the Eighth Congressional District and to commend them to the U.S. House of Representatives for all of their good works.

#### TRIBUTE TO MRS. EDITH LOVELL

##### HON. EDOLPHUS TOWNS

OF NEW YORK

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

*Friday, February 13, 2009*

Mr. TOWNS. Madam Speaker, on February 8, 2009, Mrs. Edith Lovell, a resident of Brooklyn, New York, celebrated her 105th birthday.

She was born on February 8, 1904 in Barbados, West Indies. She migrated to the United States in 1924 and resided with family in Harlem. A few years later, she married Samuel Lovell and relocated to Brooklyn, New York.

Mrs. Lovell is the mother of the late Muriel Lovell Sealy and the mother of Dr. Alvin Lovell. She has three grandchildren, Angela Graham and Kelley Sealy and Alison Lovell; two great grandchildren, Philip and Amanda Graham; one great great granddaughter, Angelique; nephews, nieces and cousins, including New York State Supreme Court Justice Valerie Brathwaite Nelson.

She enjoys reading, history, the company of family and friends and participating in lively social and political discussions. She was a strong supporter of Barack Obama during the recent campaign and was proud to witness the historic occasion and celebrated his Inauguration as the 44th President of the United States.

Mrs. Lovell was an avid gardener until recently; she was the recipient of the 2003 Award for the Greenest Block in Brooklyn.

As we celebrate the various events honoring African Americans during the month of February, I truly believe we should include the name of Ms. Edith Lovell. I am proud to join the United States Congress and our nation in honoring this great trailblazer.

#### TRIBUTE TO LIBBY GREER

##### HON. ALLEN BOYD

OF FLORIDA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

*Friday, February 13, 2009*

Mr. BOYD. Madam Speaker, I rise today with mixed emotions to pay tribute to my departing Chief of Staff, Libby Greer. Libby has spent the last 7½ years with my office, where she has served as my trusted advisor, my right arm, and my friend.

As people who know her will tell you, Libby has a knowledge of policy and a political acumen that have made her a compelling force. She has been a steadfast leader in both my office and within the Blue Dogs, while serving as a mentor to countless folks. Her contribution to my public service and commitment to the people of North Florida have made a lasting impression from Washington, D.C. all the way down to Florida.

It is with immense gratitude that I thank Libby for her years of service and friendship. Words simply cannot express how much she has meant to me, to my family, and to my public service efforts for the past 7½ years. Today, I join my wife, Cissy, in wishing her much happiness and the best of luck in this new chapter of her life.

#### IN CELEBRATION OF THE 50TH ANNIVERSARY OF THE MONROE/LENAAWEE COUNTY AFL-CIO CENTRAL LABOR COUNCIL

##### HON. JOHN D. DINGELL

OF MICHIGAN

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

*Friday, February 13, 2009*

Mr. DINGELL. Madam Speaker. I rise today to honor the 50th anniversary of the Monroe/

Lenawee County AFL-CIO Central Labor Council (CLC). On January 28, 1959, nine local unions from the American Federation of Labor, known as the Monroe Central Labor Union, and sixteen local unions from the Congress of Industrial Organizations, known as the Monroe County CIO Industrial Union Council, held a merger convention in the historic Philip Murray Building in downtown Monroe, Michigan.

The purpose of this convention was to dissolve their Charters of the Monroe Central Labor Union and the Monroe County CIO Industrial Union Council and adopt a new constitution under which the two organizations would merge and form one new organization. On February 9, 1959, the National AFL-CIO granted a charter to the Monroe County AFL-CIO Central Labor Council.

The Central Labor Council has worked for 50 years to secure a united action of union locals to protect, maintain and advance the interest of all working people. These efforts include building support and advocacy for worker friendly legislation, furthering the acceptance of collective bargaining in the workplace and educating the general public on the importance of the American Labor Movement. The CLC's commitment to the betterment of their community has never wavered, and their unselfish willingness to lead by example has undoubtedly contributed to a higher standard of living for—not only union members, but for all people in Monroe, Lenawee, and the surrounding communities.

The Monroe County AFL-CIO Central Labor Council mission statement has not strayed from its original purpose and remains committed to education, organizing, mobilizing and creating activities for the common good and welfare of their community.

Madam Speaker, I ask that my colleagues rise and join me in commending the Monroe/Lenawee County AFL-CIO Central Labor Council on 50 years of advocacy for workers and tremendous service to the community.

#### HONORING THE 250TH ANNIVERSARY OF AMHERST, MASSACHUSETTS

##### HON. JOHN W. OLVER

OF MASSACHUSETTS

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

*Friday, February 13, 2009*

Mr. OLVER. Madam Speaker, I rise today to celebrate the founding of Amherst, Massachusetts 250 years ago on February 13, 1759. The following history provided by the Amherst Historical Society paints a fascinating picture of a town I have been honored to represent my entire legislative career.

Two hundred fifty years ago, a section of Hadley, Massachusetts became the district of Amherst when local men petitioned the government of Massachusetts Bay to incorporate Hadley's Second Precinct (as Amherst was officially called) as a district which could hold town meetings and govern itself. On February 13, 1759, a bill was passed and the royal governor, Thomas Pownall, named the new district "Amherst" to honor his friend General Jeffery Amherst, who had recently led a successful military expedition against the French in Canada.

Hadley farmers, who had been grazing their cattle on Amherst lands since the late 1600s,

called this land by many names—Hadley Farms, East Farms, Hadley Outer Commons, East Hadley, New Swamp, and event Foote's Folly Swamp. Hadley farmers didn't think much of Amherst's soil as compared with the richer soils closer to the Connecticut River, but the Amherst land was fertile enough and, during a brief peaceful period in the late 1720s, a few farmers ventured to establish Amherst homesteads.

In the 1750s, more farms sprang up and the population of "East Hadley" topped that of the original settlement, but inhabitants were still required to travel to Hadley to conduct town business and pay taxes, for which they received little in return. This led, naturally, to the locals desire to govern themselves.

But Amherst's history goes back much farther. About 1,000 years ago, native peoples who lived and fanned all over Southern New England, including the area that became Amherst, met regularly at sites along the Connecticut River for fishing, feasting, and socializing. The Norwottucks, one of those groups, traveled through Amherst and probably set up temporary campsites along the Fort and Mill Rivers. They used two major trails, a path that later became Bay Road and one in the area of Pulpit Hill and East Leverett Roads.

The beginnings of the town we know today were not only built by those original farmers from Hadley and surrounding communities but by Africans who were brought here as slaves, torn from their homelands and families. Up through the 1770s, slaves were bought, sold, leased, and traded in Amherst. They worked on their owners' houses and farms and were always subject to being sold away from their families. During this same period, several free blacks also lived in Amherst.

Today, descendants from every group representing Amherst's "First Comers" can be found living in town and throughout the Connecticut River Valley.

What distinguished Amherst from other Connecticut Valley farming towns was an early interest in education. Between 1814 and 1821, Amherst citizens established both Amherst Academy and Amherst College. As early as 1847, Massachusetts citizens began thinking about the need for agricultural education, which paved the way for the founding of the Massachusetts Agricultural College in Amherst in 1863. In this same period, Amherst boasted small-scale manufacturing (and later large-scale hat factories) but without a large, powerful river, manufacturing never blossomed as it did in other Massachusetts communities. Amherst remained an agricultural and educational community.

It was the establishment of the University of Massachusetts in 1947 and its post-World War II expansion, the opening of Hampshire College in 1970, and the attendant population increase and development boom that threatened Amherst's small town character and natural beauty. Citizens responded with local laws to preserve agricultural land and to limit development. By the late 1960s, the town was noted for being progressive and socially conscious, with outspoken citizens bringing national and international issues to the local level. This independent spirit, combined with good schools, open spaces, and a vibrant intellectual life, has made Amherst a magnet for newcomers.

There are also other Amhersts: a home to immigrants from all over the world; a place

where machinists and shop owners work and goods are made and sold; a place where people struggle to make ends meet amid social services spread then; and a town caught between residents' high expectations for schools and services and a tax base largely funded by property tax on private residences. Slightly more than half of Amherst's land is in use by the colleges and university or remains under conservation or agricultural restriction. Townspeople watch and wait as the resolutions to these economic issues evolve and define Amherst's future.

Once again, I am proud and honored to represent this town rich in history and community. Please join me in congratulating the Town of Amherst as it celebrates its 250th Founders Day.

#### TRIBUTE TO TRUMAN BENEDICT

##### HON. KEN CALVERT

OF CALIFORNIA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

*Friday, February 13, 2009*

Mr. CALVERT. Madam Speaker, I rise today to honor and pay tribute to an individual whose dedication and contributions to the community of San Clemente, California are exceptional. San Clemente has been fortunate to have dynamic and dedicated community leaders who willingly and unselfishly give their time and talent and make their communities a better place to live and work. Truman Benedict is one of these individuals. On February 19, 2009, the San Clemente Chamber of Commerce will honor Truman with their "Outstanding Lifetime Achievement Award."

Truman Benedict moved to San Clemente in 1949, along with his wife Betty. A credentialed teacher educated at Whittier College in Los Angeles, Truman first began teaching seventh graders at Las Palmas. A Superintendent who had originally come to the "village," as San Clemente was known, in 1944, selected Truman for the job of seventh grade teacher.

While renting a place on Avenida Pelayo, Truman continued for five years to teach at Las Palmas School where he worked for \$180 a month. Truman Benedict became Principal of Las Palmas School, and in 1956 was named Superintendent of the San Clemente Elementary School District, which included Las Palmas and Concordia schools.

In 1965 when the Capistrano Unified School District, encompassing San Juan Capistrano, Capistrano Beach and San Clemente, was formed, Truman was named Assistant Superintendent in charge of curriculum and the certifying of teaching personnel. He eventually became Superintendent, then Deputy Superintendent of the district. From there Truman went on to serve as a San Clemente City Councilman, City Mayor and member of and volunteer for many civic groups.

Teaching came natural to Truman Benedict. As the smallest person in Los Angeles to ever play varsity basketball, Truman expected a lot of himself, and said that he was inspired by teachers who expected a lot out of him in return. Truman became a teacher because he enjoyed school and working with kids. It follows that in his career he was most often called upon to handle the older and brightest children.

In addition to his distinguished career as an educator and public servant, Truman is also a

patriot; he served four years in the U.S. Armed Forces as P38 pilot. He was married to his wife Betty for 45 years until she passed away. Truman and Betty have two daughters, Sally and Nancy, and four grandchildren. The Truman Benedict School is named after him and Truman was named the 1990 San Clemente Citizen of the Year.

Truman's tireless passion for community service and education has contributed immensely to the betterment of the community of San Clemente, California. I am proud to call Truman a fellow community member, American and friend. I know that many community members are grateful for his service and salute him as he receives the "Outstanding Lifetime Achievement Award."

IN REMEMBRANCE OF TOM CLIFFORD, PRESIDENT EMERITUS OF THE UNIVERSITY OF NORTH DAKOTA

##### HON. EARL POMEROY

OF NORTH DAKOTA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

*Friday, February 13, 2009*

Mr. POMEROY. Madam Speaker, Tom Clifford was the most influential leader of the University of North Dakota in its entire history. I feel fortunate that he was president during my years there. I had the opportunity to work with him as a student senator, state legislator and member of the U.S. Congress. He was one of the finest people I've ever known.

Tom Clifford was a giant in every aspect of his life, from his service as a decorated Marine Corps veteran during World War II to his lasting legacy at the University of North Dakota.

During his 21-year tenure at the helm of UND, President Clifford oversaw a period of tremendous growth, in everything from enrollment—from 8,400 to more than 12,000 students—to research grants and contracts—from \$6.4 million to \$40 million—to evolving the university through the amazing growth of the aerospace program and the Center for Innovation.

Tom Clifford's influence extended far beyond education. When it came to diversifying the region's economy and creating new high paying jobs and rewarding careers, Tom Clifford was viewed by all parties as North Dakota's "wise man." His counsel was often sought and freely given. His creative contribution will live on in our region through the new opportunities he helped grow.

Tom Clifford never stopped being an excellent athlete and the number one fan of the Fighting Sioux. When I was a student he was the best handball player at the university—turning back challengers decades younger than he was.

One particularly fond memory I cherish came from a trip I took with Tom to the NCAA Division H national championship in Alabama in 2001. The Fighting Sioux slugged it out for 4 quarters but trailed by 4 points with time almost done. The Sioux connected on a short pass, but suddenly the runner broke free and scampered nearly 80 yards for the winning touchdown. Although Tom was seated in the president's box along side the president and a few boisterous alumni from the other team, Tom didn't shout or say much, but his deep